

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1041

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to honor Pastor Paul K. Reed for his outstanding career in the ministry.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious leaders who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, enrich the lives of the people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Paul K. Reed is a trailblazer for his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and has served with distinction as the pastor of New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Paul K. Reed was born in Gary, Indiana, but was later adopted by Robert and Earline Reed, both deceased, and grew up in Memphis; he is a 1977 graduate of Hamilton High School and attended Memphis State University, where he majored in business administration; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reed was baptized and led to Christ at an early age and cherishes his personal growth with the Lord; he has always been active in church and served as drummer, Sunday school teacher, deacon, and associate minister at his home church, Pilgrim Rest, under the late Pastor B.L. Bess, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, God called Pastor Reed to pastor New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, and he has served the church family there with love, patience, and compassion for nearly eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, he resigned his position as a manager for Fed Ex, for which he had worked for fifteen years, and committed his life to full-time ministry; under his inspired guidance, New Friendship excels as a growing church that is a place of refuge, strength, and growth for all believers; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reed has been married for twenty-eight years to Debra G. Reed, who serves alongside her husband as New Friendship's Co-Pastor; they are blessed with three wonderful children, a daughter, Sabrina, and twin sons, Brandon and Brian; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Messick High School and Bethel College, Debra Reed accepted her calling into the preached word ministry in September 2004; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being co-pastor, she works with New Friendship's women's ministry, choir ministry, Bible study, ministerial staff, and in administration and leadership with her husband; and

WHEREAS, Debra Reed is a skillful musician who plays piano and organ and has served as minister of music for several churches during the past thirty years; and

WHEREAS, a gifted and passionate singer, she recorded with Billy Rivers and the Angelic Voices of Faith and performed on the Stella Awards and with Bobby Jones; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reed has an undying passion for people and possesses a vision to fulfill God's will; he preaches and teaches the word of God with conviction and with motive to build disciples; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reed places special emphasis on young people and the elderly, understanding their vulnerability and isolation in today's world; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Reed is a faithful servant leader who contributes his time, talent, and tithes to enhance the Kingdom of God, always preaching and teaching the gospel and spreading the good news about Jesus and His love; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is delighted to recognize this committed Christian minister, for Pastor Paul K. Reed is an eminent citizen of Tennessee and Memphis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Pastor Paul K. Reed upon his outstanding ministry as pastor at New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, thank him for bringing faith and hope to

the lives of thousands of Christians, and extend to Pastor Reed our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.